motions to higher posts in the All India Services are made by selection on merit with due regard to seniority. Government have no information of promotions not being given to deserving women officers in the All India Services.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

Orissa proposal for development of Backward Areas

583. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Planning Commission has received proposals from the Government of Orissa requesting special assistance for the development of Backward Areas/Tribal dominated districts of the State;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of Orissa, in April and July, 1987 requested the Central Government to declare Mayurbhanj, Koraput, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Bolangir; Phulbani, Sundergarh, Dhenkanal; Sambalpur, Ganjam as hill districts qualified for Special Central Assistance under the Hill Area Development Programme (HADP). All these districts fully or partially are already receiving Special Central Assistance under Tribal Development Programme. However, the question of inclusion of new hill areas of the country in HADP was examined by an Expert Group which has submitted its report, which is being processed.

Procurement of commission by Win Chadha in Torpedo Deal

584. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an inquiry had been ordered into a huge commission procured by Win Chadha's Anatronic General Corporation on a Rs. 30 crore deal on supply of Torpedoes to the Indian Navy by a blacklisted Italian firm Whitehead--Moto Fide and also into the Navy having found the torpedoes, defective, as reported in 'Indian Express' dated 15th July, 1987;

(b) if so, what are the findings and the follow-up action taken; and

(c) which other items and each worth how much have been supplied by Italian firm to India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) Whitehead-Moto Fides has not been blacklisted by the Ministry of Defence. There is, therefore, no basis for an enquiry. A contract was concluded in March, 1987 with this firm for the supply of torpedoes, associated test equipment and spares to the Indian Navy. This contract was negotiated directly with the firm which has given a written undertaking that no Indian agent was/is working for them in respect of the contract. The torpedoes were inspected to the designed parameters before acceptance and found satisfactory.

It is not in the interest of security to furnish details of the purchases or the value thereof.